

Individual Proposal Report

Title: Watershed Management Planning for the Sacramento River Riparian program (G195)

Geographic Area: Sacramento Mainstem

Primary Stressor Addressed: Channel Form Changes

Project Type: Planning

Applicant Type and Name: State agency. California Department of Water Resources, Stacy Cepello (530-529-7352).

Funding: The applicant has requested \$200,000. \$100,000 was approved from the 1997 Category III funds. It is recommended that the remaining \$100,000 be appropriated from the 1998 funds.

Cost Share: The labor and overhead associated with hiring and oversight of the coordinator will be contributed by DWR.

Project Description: The Department of Water Resources proposes to hire a non-agency interim coordinator to assist in the development of site-specific plans for areas within the Sacramento River Riparian Conservation Area and to establish a new non-profit riparian land management entity. The project provides for the implementation of the riparian ecosystem portion of the Upper Sacramento River Fisheries and Riparian Habitat Management Plan (SB 1086), and will benefit multiple species and habitats.

ERPP Linkage: The proposal meets the goals of the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (CALFED, Volume II, 28 July 1997) as it should preserve and improve the existing stream meander belt in the Sacramento River between Red Bluff and Chico Landing, and between Chico Landing and Colusa (page 132), increase and maintain floodplains in conjunction with stream meander corridor restoration (page 133), provide conditions for riparian vegetation growth along channelized portions of the Sacramento River (page 134), increase the ecological value of low-to-moderate quality shady riverine habitat by changing land use/land management practices (page 135), and maintain existing streamside riparian vegetation (page 135).

AFRP Linkage: This proposal contributes toward making all reasonable efforts to at least double natural production of anadromous fish as it supports the following action and evaluations listed in the Revised Draft Restoration Plan for the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (USFWS, 30 May 1997): (1) Pursue opportunities, consistent with efforts conducted pursuant to Senate Bill 1086, to create a meander belt from Keswick Dam to Colusa to recruit gravel and large woody debris, to moderate temperatures and to enhance nutrient input (Upper Mainstem Sacramento River Action 9, page 38);

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(2) Continue study to refine a river regulation program, consistent with SB 1086, that balances fish habitats with the flow regime and addresses temperatures, flushing flows, attraction flows, emigration, channel and riparian corridor maintenance (Upper Mainstem Sacramento River Evaluation 1, page 39); and (3) Identify opportunities for restoring riparian forests in channelized sections of the upper mainstem Sacramento River that are appropriate with flood control and other water management constraints (Upper Mainstem Sacramento River Evaluation 5, page 40).

Applicant's Proposed Monitoring: Performance monitoring and reporting will be based on the specific tasks in the proposal. Project-specific monitoring will be required in order to implement site specific restoration plans. CALFED staff will review the proposed monitoring plan and revise as necessary.